



OC Human Relations

Building community by fostering respect, resolving conflict and pursuing equality
Serving Orange County since 1991

Technology & Social Media

Be Educated. Be Informed. Be Safe!

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3.1 Recommendation: The U.S. Department of Justice, in consultation with the law enforcement field, should broaden the efforts of the National Institute of Justice to establish national standards for the research and development of new technology. These standards should also address compatibility and interoperability needs both within law enforcement agencies and across agencies and jurisdictions and maintain civil and human rights protections.

3.1.1 Action item: The Federal Government should support the development and delivery of training to help law enforcement agencies learn, acquire, and implement technology tools and tactics that are consistent with the best practices of 21st century policing.

3.1.2 Action item: As part of national Standards, the issue of technology's impact on privacy concerns should be addressed in accordance with protections provided by constitutional law.

3.1.3 Action item: Law enforcement agencies should deploy smart technology that is designed to prevent the tampering with or manipulating of evidence in violation of policy.

3.2 Recommendation: The implementation of appropriate technology by law enforcement agencies should be designed considering local needs and aligned with national standards.

3.2.1 Action item: Law enforcement agencies should encourage public engagement and collaboration, including the use of community advisory bodies, when developing a policy for the use of a new technology.

Implementing new technologies can give police departments an opportunity to fully engage and educate communities in a dialogue about their expectations for transparency, accountability, and privacy.

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3.2.2 Action item: Law enforcement agencies should include an evaluation or assessment process to gauge the effectiveness of any new technology, soliciting input from all levels of the agency, from line officer to leadership, as well as assessment from members of the community.

3.2.3 Action item: Law enforcement agencies should adopt the use of new technologies that will help them better serve people with special needs or disabilities.

3.3 Recommendation: The U.S. Department of Justice should develop best practices that can be adopted by state legislative bodies to govern the acquisition, use, retention, and dissemination of auditory, visual, and biometric data by law enforcement.

3.3.1 Action item: As part of the process for developing best practices, the U.S. Department of Justice should consult with civil rights and civil liberties organizations, as well as law enforcement research groups and other experts, concerning the constitutional issues that can arise as a result of the use of new technologies.

3.3.2 Action item: The U.S. Department of Justice should create toolkits for the most effective and constitutional use of multiple forms of innovative technology that will provide state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies with a one-stop clearinghouse of information and resources.

3.3.3 Action item: Law enforcement agencies should review and consider the Bureau of Justice Assistance's (BJA) Body Worn Camera Toolkit to assist in implementing BWCs.

3.4 Recommendation: Federal, state, local, and tribal legislative bodies should be encouraged to update public record laws.

3.5 Recommendation: Law enforcement agencies should adopt model policies and best practices for technology-based community engagement that increases community trust and access.

“When any part of the American family does not feel like it is being treated fairly, that’s a problem for all of us. It means that we are not as strong as a country as we can be. And when applied to the criminal justice system, it means we’re not as effective in fighting crime as we could be.”

~Barack Obama

3.6 Recommendation: The Federal Government should support the development of new “less than lethal” technology to help control combative suspects.

3.6.1 Action item: Relevant federal agencies, including the U.S. Departments of Defense and Justice, should expand their efforts to study the development and use of new less than lethal technologies and evaluate their impact on public safety, reducing lethal violence against citizens, constitutionality, and officer safety.

3.7 Recommendation: The Federal Government should make the development and building of segregated radio spectrum and increased bandwidth by FirstNet for exclusive use by local, state, tribal, and federal public safety agencies a top priority.



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